IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 18, line 13 has been amended as follows:

[Measurement of Area Contraction Ratio of Separator]

A separator A of 20mm × 30mm (of which the thickness is 15 μm, the porous ratio is 42% and the shut-down temperature is 148°C) and a separator X (of which the thickness is 15 μm, the porous ratio is 40% and the shut-down temperature is 135°C) are prepared respectively and both ends of each separator are secured to a grass plate with a heat resistant imide tape and then, the separator was left for 30 minutes in a thermobath at 120°C and after that, the separator is gradually cooled at room temperature so that the area (α mm^2) of the separator after cooling was measured. The results of the calculation of the area contraction ratio (%) = ~~α mm^2/ (20 × 30)~~ $(20 \times 30 - \alpha)$ mm^2/ (20×30) mm^2 of each separator at 120°C are shown in Table 1.